

CLAIM LISTING

Please find below a complete listing of presently pending claims with status identifiers. This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

1-19. (Cancelled).

20. (Currently Amended) An implantable fixed tissue comprising cross-linked elastin, wherein the cross-linked elastin of the implantable fixed tissue is cross-linked with a phenolic tannin cross-linking agent, the implantable fixed tissue including a residue of the phenolic tannin cross-linking agent bound to and cross-linking the elastin of the fixed tissue.

21. (Currently Amended) The implantable fixed tissue of claim 20, further comprising cross-linked collagen, wherein the collagen is cross-linked with a glutaraldehyde cross-linking agent, the implantable fixed tissue including a residue of the glutaraldehyde cross-linking agent bound to and cross-linking the collagen of the fixed tissue.

22. (Cancelled).

23. (Currently Amended) The implantable fixed tissue of claim 20, wherein the implantable fixed tissue comprises at least about 10% elastin by weight.

24. (Currently Amended) The implantable fixed tissue of claim 20, wherein the phenolic tannin cross-linking agent is tannic acid.

25-27. (Cancelled).

28. (Currently Amended) The implantable fixed tissue of claim 20, wherein the tissue is selected from the group consisting of bovine and porcine tissue.

29. (Currently Amended) The implantable fixed tissue of claim 20, wherein the tissue is selected from the group consisting of pericardium, aortic wall, heart valve, and vena cava tissue.

30. (Withdrawn – Currently Amended) An implantable fixed tissue comprising: cross-linked elastin, wherein said cross-linked elastin of the implantable fixed tissue is cross-linked with a phenolic tannin cross-linking agent, the implantable fixed tissue comprising a residue of the phenolic tannin cross-linking agent bound to and cross-linking the elastin of the fixed tissue; and

a bioprosthetic support material attached to the implantable fixed tissue.

31. (Withdrawn) The implantable fixed tissue of claim 30, in which the implantable fixed tissue has an elastin content of greater than about 10% by weight of the tissue.

32. (Withdrawn – Currently Amended) The implantable fixed tissue of claim 30, in which the implantable fixed tissue further comprises collagen, wherein said collagen is cross-linked with a glutaraldehyde cross-linking agent, the implantable fixed tissue including a residue of the glutaraldehyde cross-linking agent bound to and cross-linking the collagen of the fixed tissue.

33. (Withdrawn) The implantable fixed tissue of claim 30, wherein the implantable fixed tissue is an anisotropic tissue.

34. (Withdrawn) The implantable fixed tissue of claim 33, wherein the anisotropic tissue exhibits greater stiffness in a first direction and greater elasticity in a second direction.

35. (Withdrawn) The implantable fixed tissue of claim 30, wherein the tissue is selected from the group consisting of pericardium, aortic wall, heart valve and vena cava tissue.

36. (Withdrawn) The implantable fixed tissue of claim 30, wherein the tissue is porcine vena cava tissue.

37. (Withdrawn) The implantable fixed tissue of claim 30, wherein the support material comprises a stent.

38. (Withdrawn) The implantable fixed tissue of claim 30, wherein the support material comprises a suture ring.

39. (Withdrawn) The implantable fixed tissue of claim 30, wherein the implantable fixed tissue is a portion of a bioprosthetic heart valve.

40-46. (Cancelled).

47. (Withdrawn) The implantable fixed tissue of claim 30, wherein the phenolic tannin cross-linking agent is tannic acid.

48. (New) An implantable fixed tissue comprising cross-linked elastin and cross-linked collagen, the implantable fixed tissue including a residue of a phenolic tannin cross-linking agent bound to and cross-linking the cross-linked elastin of the fixed

tissue, the implantable fixed tissue including a residue of an aldehyde cross-linking agent bound to and cross-linking the cross-linked collagen of the fixed tissue.

49. (New) The implantable fixed tissue of claim 48, wherein the aldehyde cross-linking agent is glutaraldehyde.

50. (New) The implantable fixed tissue of claim 48, wherein the implantable fixed tissue comprises at least about 10% elastin by weight.

51. (New) The implantable fixed tissue of claim 48, wherein the phenolic tannin cross-linking agent is tannic acid.

52. (New) The implantable fixed tissue of claim 48, wherein the tissue is selected from the group consisting of bovine and porcine tissue.

53. (New) The implantable fixed tissue of claim 48, wherein the tissue is selected from the group consisting of pericardium, aortic wall, heart valve, and vena cava tissue.